



If you're interested in nature, you'll want to sign up for a FREE on-line subscription to "This Week at Hilton Pond," an award-winning series of photo essays about what's going on in the natural world.

Each week, the Web site for **Hilton Pond Center for Piedmont Natural History** ([www.hiltonpond.org](http://www.hiltonpond.org)) publishes a write-up on some environmental subject that will pique your interest and that of your students if you're a teacher. You'll learn something new every week about topics from hummingbirds to wildflowers, from mushrooms to snakes. The text is informative and the photos are often downright breathtaking—the perfect complements to your classroom teaching or after-dinner conversation.

All weekly essays are written and photographed by **Bill Hilton Jr.**, the Center's executive director. Known widely as "The Piedmont Naturalist," Hilton shares his nature observations in a way that makes the topic understandable for students of all ages. In fact, K-16 teachers around the country use "This Week at Hilton Pond" to enhance and enrich their classroom lessons and to encourage students to be more aware of the world of nature.

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**Hilton Pond Center for Piedmont Natural History** is a non-profit research, education and conservation organization based near York, South Carolina. The Center's mission is to "conserve animals, plants, habitats, and other natural components of the Piedmont Region of the eastern United States through observation, scientific study, and education for students of all ages." The Center is the most active bird banding station in the Carolinas, with nearly 47,000 birds banded since 1982, including more than 3,100 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds.

For information about Guided Field Trips at the Center, the possibility of **Bill Hilton Jr.** visiting your school or conservation group for an unforgettable program, or how to participate in **Operation RubyThroat: The Hummingbird Project** ([www.rubythroat.org](http://www.rubythroat.org)), contact Hilton via e-mail at [education@hiltonpond.org](mailto:education@hiltonpond.org).



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